RATION COMMITTEES

147. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) if the Advisory Committees nominated by Government in different Panchayat areas in the State are still functioning;

(*b*) why the name of the Advisory Committee has recently been changed as Ration Committee;

(*c*) is the Civil Supplies Department calling for any opinion from the said committee or is the Civil Supplies Department heeding to their opinion offered on any Civil Supply subject?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) To enable these committees to advise on the working of the Rationing Scheme, it was thought desirable to have the committee's name changed as "Rationing Advisory Committee".

(*c*) The Civil Supplies Department will call for the opinion of the Committees as regards the working of the Rationing scheme wherever it is found necessary. Any opinion given by them in this matter will receive careful consideration by the Civil Supplies Department.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know whether these committees can give advice to the Government or the Civil-Supplies Department without being requisitioned.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Certainly.

CORRUPTION AMONG OFFICERS DURING PRICE CONTROL—ENQUIRY REGARDING

148. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have come across a press communique issued by the Travancore Government about the misconduct and consequent enrichment of the officers concerned during the price control period;

(*b*) whether Government have received any like complaints about the subordinate executives in Cochin State of like practice and like results either orally or in writing;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative whether they intend to have any steps of like or other nature in this matter?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No reply is called for in view of answer to (*b*).

ROAD BOARD COMMITTEE

149. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when the "Road Board Committee" was constituted by Government in the State;

(*b*) the items of programme recommended by the said committee;

(*c*) has all the work recommended by the said committee for the first 8 years been completed;

(*d*) if the recommendations of the Road Board to take over from the Panchayat the Pynkulam Killimangalam road by the P. W. D. has been carried out, and if that has not been yet done, what is the reason for the delay?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*:

(*a*) The "Road Board Committee" was constituted in 1111 to prepare a programme of works for five years from 1112—1116. The committee was reconstituted in 1116 to prepare the second programme of works for five years from 1117—1121.

(*b*) The works in the first programme are given in the list placed on the Council Table.

(*c*) The works in the list have all been taken up except items 6 and 31.

(*d*) The Panchayat road proposed to be transferred to the P. W. D. requires repairs and the matter was referred to the present Road Board. Provision for these repairs is being made in the present programme (1117—1121).

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)*: May I know, Sir, whether a subsequent Road Board which has come into being has power to overrule the recommendations made by the earlier Road Board. I want to know whether the recommendations of the earlier Road Board can be superceded, overruled or substituted by a subsequent Road Board.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: A Board when it considers certain proposals has got the latitude to determine whether it has got to revise the programme of the previous Board.

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